

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-69 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 17, 33, 49, 55, and 61 have been amended, and claims 67, 68, and 69 have been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2, 5-14, 17, 18, 21-30, 33-34 and 37-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abdelhadi, U.S. Patent 6,486,894 and Diedrichsen, U.S. Patent 5,920,313.

Abdelhadi discloses changing the colors of the pixels that make up the display of a cursor. The pixels are colored so that regardless of the background or backgrounds over which the cursor is moved, the displayed cursor possesses sufficient contrast to be seen by the user. Diedrichsen discloses setting the colors of windows which are related to the same color to enable the user to distinguish between different sets of related windows.

Claims 1, 17, and 33 claim automatically determining, based on a primary color, a plurality of secondary colors for the user interface elements, wherein the plurality of secondary colors are assigned different roles in the user interface elements and wherein a first user interface element is assigned a first secondary color from the plurality of secondary colors and wherein a second user interface element is assigned one of the plurality of secondary colors based on a first characteristic of the second user interface element if displayed in a first relation with the first user interface element.

Abdelhadi discloses reacting to an underlying color assigned elsewhere, and so does not disclose the claimed limitation. Diedrichsen discloses assigning different colors to different groups of related windows, and provides a visual cue to indicate which window is the focal point of the desk. However, nothing in Diedrichsen discloses “a

second user interface element is assigned one of the plurality of secondary colors based on a first characteristic of the second user interface element if displayed in a first relation with the first user interface element.” Thus, Abdelhadi and Diedrichsen, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention.

Furthermore, Abdelhadi and Diedrichsen teach away from one another. Abdelhadi teaches changing the color of a cursor in order to ensure that it is not confused with another object and that the user can readily distinguish between the two. Diedrichsen, however, teaches the similar coloration of objects to ensure that the user does perceive the objects as being related.

Claims 2-16, 18-32, and 34-46 depend, directly or indirectly, upon independent claims 1, 17, and 33 and are therefore patentable over Abdelhadi in view of Diedrichsen at least for the reasons argued above in conjunction with claims 1, 17, and 33.

In light of the foregoing arguments applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 2, 5-14, 17, 18, 21-30, 33-34 and 37-46 are not unpatentable by Abdelhadi and Diedrichsen, and respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 3-4, 19-20, 35-36 and 49-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abdelhadi, U.S. Patent 6,486,894, Diedrichsen, U.S. Patent 5,920,313 and Andrew, U.S. Patent 5,371,844.

Claims 3-4, 19-20, and 35-36 depend, directly or indirectly, upon independent claims 1, 17, and 33. Claims 1, 17, and 33 claim automatically determining, based on a primary color, a plurality of secondary colors for the user interface elements, wherein the plurality of secondary colors are assigned different roles in the user interface

elements and wherein a first user interface element is assigned a first secondary color from the plurality of secondary colors and wherein a second user interface element is assigned one of the plurality of secondary colors based on a first characteristic of the second user interface element if displayed in a first relation with the first user interface element.

Abdelhadi and Diedrichsen are described above. For at least the reasons argued above, Abdelhadi and Diedrichsen fail teach or suggest all the limitations as claimed in claims 1, 17, and 33.

Andrew describes a palette manager in a GUI computer system. In the disclosure, a method for adjusting elements of a GUI operating system is described where each of a plurality of palette managers are presented on a display device by icons and are accessible via windows and responsive to a pointer. A user may select different colors on the palette using a pointer to update the color of an element.

Andrew therefore describes the manual changing of colors in a user interface and therefore does not cure the deficiency of Abdelhadi and Diedrichsen.

Claims 49, 55, and 61 claim automatically determining, based on said color from said range of colors, a plurality of colors for a corresponding plurality of user interface elements, wherein the plurality of colors are assigned different roles in the user interface elements and wherein a first user interface element in the plurality of user interface elements is assigned a first color from the plurality of colors and wherein a second user interface element in the plurality of user interface elements is assigned one of the plurality of colors based on a first characteristic of the second user interface element if displayed in a first relation with the first user interface element.

Therefore, Claims 49, 55, and 61 are patentable over Abdelhadi, Diedrichsen, and Andrew at least for the reasons argued above in conjunction with claims 1, 17, and 33. Claims 50-54, 56-60, and 62-66 depend, directly or indirectly, upon independent

claims 49, 55, and 61 and are patentable over Abdelhadi, Diedrichsen, and Andrew at least for the reasons argued above.

In light of the foregoing arguments applicant respectfully submits that claims 3-4, 19-20, 35-36 and 49-66 are not unpatentable by Abdelhadi, Diedrichsen and Andrew and respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 15-16, 31-32 and 47-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abdelhadi, U.S. Patent 6,486,894, Diedrichsen, U.S. Patent 5,920,313 and Yamade, U.S. Patent 5,895,451.

Yamade discloses a scheduler apparatus with color code appointment times shown on a display. Yamade fails to teach or suggest the limitations in claims 1, 17, 33, 49, 55, and 61 which have been discussed above. Therefore, Yamade fails to cure the deficiency of Abdelhadi and Diedrichsen.

In light of the foregoing arguments applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-16, 31-32 and 47-48 are not unpatentable by Abdelhadi, Diedrichsen and Yamade and respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

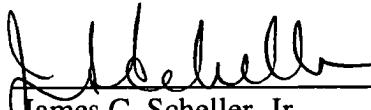
Claims 1-69 are pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks,
Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account
No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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